

Teachers invited to submit student work for virtual Student Art Exhibitions



TCOE's annual Student Art Exhibitions will be held online this year. Open to students in grades PK-12, the annual exhibitions showcase the county's gifted young artists who create twoand three-dimensional pieces utilizing a variety of mediums. Instead of hosting two shows in the lobby of the Mooney Boulevard administration building, this year event coordinators will produce one online show held December 1 through February 28.

A panel of local artists will judge all entries submitted to the virtual exhibition. Those pieces receiving a Best of Show award will be recognized in a special exhibition in March during Arts Education Month. Best of Show artwork will also be eligible for additional recognition as Best of the Best in Tulare County.

"In this unprecedented time of distance learning, the arts are more important than ever," said Tim Hire, Tulare County Superintendent of Schools. "Research continues to demonstrate how the arts and creativity can be an outlet for self-expression and a catalyst for healing."

Teachers interested in participating in the exhibition should preregister by October 1. All artwork is due to event coordinators by November 1. For more information on the Student Art Exhibitions, visit <u>bit.ly/TCOE-SAE</u>. Teachers needing support on integrating the arts into their distance learning curriculum are encouraged to contact to Kate Stover, Visual and Performing Arts curriculum specialist, at <u>kate.stover@tcoe.org</u>.

Resource & Referral teams up with First 5 Tulare County to distribute COVID-19 cleaning supplies



This week, Early Childhood Education's (ECE) Resource & Referral Program announced that it would again partner with First 5 Tulare County to distribute COVID-19 cleaning and sanitation supplies to Tulare County Early Learning care providers. The Resource & Referral staff will hold a drive-through distribution event for registered providers at the Mooney Boulevard administration building on Monday morning, September 21. Those eligible to receive the free supplies include license exempt providers, and those who operate family resource centers, family childcare homes, and private centers.

This month, First 5 Tulare County has provided a variety of disinfecting sprays and cleaners, disposable gloves and masks, and hand sanitizer for distribution. Early Learning care providers must register at <u>tcoe.org/First5Supplies</u> in order to attend the event. Registration closes September 16.

To receive news about future Resource & Referral network events, Early Learning care providers are encouraged to notify staff of any changes to their contact information by leaving a message at (559) 651-0185 or emailing <u>referralsrr@cc.tcoe.org</u>.

# TULARE COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION EQUITY CONFERENCE 2021

### **Registration now open for TCOE's second annual Equity Conference**

Registration is now open for TCOE's second annual Equity Conference entitled *Equity for All: Inclusion Starts with "I."* The virtual conference – planned for January 21 from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. – will feature two prominent keynote speakers, Dr. Jamila Lyiscott and Father Greg Boyle. Additionally, the interactive institute will include a wide variety of breakout sessions engaging participants in deeper conversations around equity challenges impeding student success and brainstorming practical solutions that empower all members of the educational community. Representatives from institutions boldly addressing their own equity challenges will share their strategies, obstacles, and outcomes. Participants will complete the conference equipped with new tools to use in equity strategies at their own schools.

## Registration

Educators, community members, and parents are encouraged to visit <u>tcoe.org/EquityConference</u> for more information. The fee for Tulare County residents is \$15 per person; attendees outside Tulare County may attend for \$25 per person. In the next few months, information on breakout session presenters will be added to the site.

### **About the Featured Speakers**

Jamila Lyiscott, Ph.D is a community engaged scholar, a nationally renowned speaker, and a spoken word artist. She serves as an assistant professor of Social Justice Education at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and a senior research fellow of Teachers College, Columbia University's Institute for Urban and Minority Education (IUME). Across these spaces, Dr. Lyiscott's work focuses on racial justice, community engagement, and youth activism in education through the lens of what she has termed, "Vision-Driven Justice."



Dr. Lyiscott has spoken at over 100 institutions throughout the

nation, working with youth, educators, and people across disciplines. Her scholarship and activism work together to prepare educators to sustain diversity in the classroom, empower youth, and explore, assert, and defend the value of Black life. Dr. Lyiscott is the founder and codirector of the Cyphers For Justice (CFJ) youth, research, and advocacy program, apprenticing New York City high school youth, incarcerated youth, and pre-service educators as critical social researchers through hip-hop, spoken word, and digital literacy. She is the recent recipient of the 2019 AERA Outstanding Public Communication of Education Research Award and the 2019 Scholar-Activist & Community Advocacy Award (AERA).

Dr. Lyiscott is the author of *Black Appetite. White Food. Issues of Race, Voice, and Justice Within and Beyond the Classroom.* She is most well known for being featured on Ted.com, where her video, *3 Ways to Speak English*, was viewed over 4 million times, and for her commissioned TED Talk, *2053*, in response to the inauguration of the 45th president of the United States. She has also been featured on many media outlets nationally and internationally. Her poetry and scholarly work have been published in several peer-reviewed journals.

**Father Greg Boyle** is a Los Angeles native and Jesuit priest. From 1986 to 1992, Father Boyle served as pastor of Dolores Mission Church in Boyle Heights, then the poorest Catholic parish in Los Angeles with the highest concentration of gang activity in the city. Father Boyle witnessed the devastating impact of gang violence on his community during the so-called "decade of death" which began in the late 1980s and peaked at 1,000 gang-related killings in 1992.



In the face of law enforcement tactics and criminal justice policies of suppression and mass incarceration as the means to

end gang violence, he and parish and community members adopted what was a radical approach at the time: treat gang members as human beings.

Father Boyle is the author of the 2010 *New York Times*-bestseller *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion*. His new book, *Barking to the Choir: The Power of Radical Kinship*, was published in 2017. He has received the California Peace Prize and been inducted into the California Hall of Fame. In 2014, President Obama named Father Boyle a Champion of Change. He received the University of Notre Dame's 2017 Laetare Medal, the oldest honor given to American Catholics. Currently, he serves as a committee member of California Governor Gavin Newsom's Economic and Job Recovery Task Force as a response to COVID-19.

### **Distance Learning Resources**

- <u>Arts All Around Us</u>
- <u>TCOE Learning at Home</u>
- <u>TCOE's Educational Resource Services Library</u>

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To receive *News Gallery Week*, visit <u>tcoe.org/GetTheGallery</u>, or contact Jennifer Fisher at <u>jenniferf@tcoe.org</u> or (559) 733-6172.